- ANNOUNCEMENT PILOT PROGRAM PERMITTING THE USE OF LAPTOP PERSONAL COMPUTERS TO TAKE THE FEBRUARY 2002 CALIFORNIA BAR EXAMINATION

The Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) announces that it will continue its pilot program, which will permit a limited number of applicants to take the February 2002 California Bar Examination using laptop personal computers under certain conditions. Requests to participate will be on a first-come, first-served basis through the examination application filing process. The pilot program will be administered at several locations in Northern and Southern California. (See Application Addendum.) A software program developed by ExamSoft Worldwide will be utilized. The software prevents an applicant from accessing any file other than the word processing function provided by the software during each session of the examination.

To use a personal laptop computer during administration of the examination, you must be willing to do the following:

- Bring a laptop personal computer that has ExamSoft software pre-installed by a
 deadline to be announced. The software will be available for downloading from
 a designated website in advance of the examination. (Even if similar software
 was used during law school or previous bar examinations, you must re-install the
 software and re-certify for this administration of the bar examination in advance.);
- Have a laptop computer with the following specifications: a Pentium 200 Mhz Processor or Industry Equivalent, 25 megabytes of free hard disk space, 24 megabytes of Ram, a Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows ME, Windows 2000, Windows NT Operating System, Internet Explorer 4.0 or Netscape Navigator 4.75 or higher;
- Have had experience working with the computer and the software prior to administration of the examination:
- Be willing to begin and/or continue with the examination by writing in the event there is a malfunction with the computer, software, disks or other technical difficulties; and,
- Be willing to sign a statement at the test center during the first morning of the
 examination confirming that the conditions for participating in the program are
 understood, i.e., prior experience working with the software, writing the
 examination if the software or computer is not working, and that the Committee
 assumes no liability in the event there is a malfunction of the software or
 equipment, etc.

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If you do not have the correct software pre-installed and have not been certified by the established deadlines, you will not be allowed to use your computer and you will be required to take the examination by writing in the test center to which you have been assigned.

Upon conclusion of each session of the examination, applicants' answers will be printed using Committee printers. Applicants will be allowed to use the entire timed portion of the examination for writing their examination answers. Applicants will not be allowed to review the printed copy following conclusion of each session.

If you wish to participate, you should complete the bar examination application form (either on-line or hard copy) by listing a pilot program test center in your area as your first choice. Please note space is limited at most test centers and seating at preferred test centers is not guaranteed. Applicants must list three test center choices on their application forms.

Applicants should not attempt register with ExamSoft until they have received acknowledgment that they have been assigned to a Pilot Program Test Center.